

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of printing a customer image order, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a digital record of a customer order containing a plurality of images;

5 selecting at least one image from said plurality of images for printing as an unenhanced image and as a digitally enhanced image;

digitally enhancing said at least one image; and

printing said digitally enhanced image and said unenhanced image.

10 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said printing step comprises:

printing said enhanced image and said unenhanced image on a single print in a side by side relationship.

15 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said printing step comprises:

printing said enhanced image on an index print and printing said unenhanced image on a standard print.

20 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step comprises:

selecting at least one image from said plurality of images where a flesh tone is detected.

25 5. A method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step comprises:

selecting at least one image from said plurality of images where red-eye is detected in the image.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step comprises:

selecting said at least one image for enhancement based on characteristics of said at least one image which includes at least one of red-eye, 5 tone scale, under exposure compensation, noise reduction and sharpness.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein each of said characteristics is assigned a predetermined weighting factor and the selected image for enhancement has a total weighting factor which is above a threshold 10 value.

8. A method according to claim 6, wherein each of said characteristics is assigned a value and said value is used to generate a message or information for a consumer.

15 9. A method according to claim 1, wherein said unenhanced image is a digitally rendered image to simulate an optical image and said digitally enhanced image is digitally rendered with superior quality to said unenhanced image.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein said printing step 20 comprises:

printing the unenhanced image on a first index print and printing the enhanced image on a second index print.

25 11. A method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step comprises:

selecting at least one image from said plurality of images where a face is detected.

12. A method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step comprises:

disqualifying any images from said plurality of images where the image has inappropriate content, high grain, a poorly composed image content, out of focus images or other objectionable image artifacts.

5           13. A method according to claim 1, wherein said unenhanced image is an optically generated print.

10          14. A method according to claim 1, wherein said enhanced image is printed on a first print which is printed inline with a second print having said unenhanced image.

15          15. A method according to claim 1, wherein said enhanced image is printed on a first print by a first printer and said unenhanced image is printed on a second print by a second printer

16          16. An imaging system comprising:  
an image data manager adapted to receive image data representative of a customer image order and select at least one image from said customer order for rendering as an unenhanced image and as a digitally enhanced image.

17. An imaging system according to claim 16, further comprising:  
a printer for printing said unenhanced image and said digitally enhanced image on a single print in an adjacent manner.

25          18. An imaging system according to claim 16, further comprising:  
a printer for printing said unenhanced image on an index print and said digitally enhanced image on a standard print.

30          19. An imaging system according to claim 16, further comprising:

a printer for printing said unenhanced image on a first print and  
said digitally enhanced image on a second print.

20. An imaging system according to claim 16, wherein said image  
5 data manager is operationally communicated with an internet connection to  
transfer said unenhanced image and said digitally enhanced image to a remote  
personal computer for display on the computer.

21. An imaging system according to claim 16, wherein said image  
10 data manager is operationally communicated with a kiosk connector to transfer  
said unenhanced image and said digitally enhanced image to a remote kiosk  
computer for display on the kiosk.

22. An imaging system according to claim 16, wherein said  
15 unenhanced image is printed on a first print by a first printer and said enhanced  
image is printed on a second print by a second printer.

23. A method of offering imaging services comprising the steps  
of:  
20 selecting at least one image from a customer order for rendering as  
an unenhanced image and as a digitally enhanced image;  
applying enhancement algorithms to said selected image to create  
the digitally enhanced image; and  
displaying said unenhanced image and said enhanced image on an  
25 electronic display.

24. A method according to claim 23, further comprising:  
providing said unenhanced image and said digitally enhanced  
image on a CD.

25. A method according to claim 23, wherein said displaying step comprises displaying said unenhanced image and said enhanced image in a side by side manner on the display.

5           26. A method according to claim 23, wherein said displaying step comprises:

               sending the unenhanced image and the enhanced image to a remote computer for display on the remote computer.

10           27. A method according to claim 23, comprising the step of:  
               assigning a value representative of an amount of enhancement to  
said selected image.

               28. A method according to claim 27, comprising the further step  
of:

15           sending information to a remote computer which includes said  
value.

               29. A method according to claim 27, comprising the further step  
of:

               using said value to generate messages for transfer to a consumer.

20           30. A method of creating a comparison print comprising the steps  
of:

               placing an unenhanced image on a first portion of a comparison  
print; and

25           placing a digitally enhanced rendering of the same image on a  
second portion of the comparison print.

               31. A method according to claim 30, wherein said second portion  
of said comparison print is adjacent to said first portion, to permit a viewer to

view and compare the unenhanced image on the first portion of the print and  
digitally enhanced rendering of the image on the second portion of the print.

32. A comparison print comprising:

- 5        a first portion having an image thereon; and  
            a second portion having a digitally enhanced rendering of the same  
image thereon.

- 10      33. A comparison print according to claim 32, further comprising  
            a third portion having an informational message pertinent to at least the digitally  
enhanced image thereon.

34. A method of printing a customer image order, the method  
comprising the steps of:

- 15      obtaining a digital record of a customer order containing a plurality  
of images;  
            selecting at least one image from said plurality of images for  
printing as an unenhanced image and as a digitally enhanced image; and  
            printing said digitally enhanced image and said unenhanced image.